



## Tips for Parents

Check backpacks for markers and/or spray paint, as well as sketch books, pieces of paper with graffiti on them, aerosol can caps or nozzles, white shoe polish and photographs of graffiti pieces or murals. Check school papers for graffiti, internet web sites such as Myspace, or cell phones. Check for graffiti markings or tags on bedroom walls or bedroom furniture.



## Ways to Report Graffiti

If you see graffiti in progress, call Dispatch at **(775) 334-COPS** or **(775) 334-2121**.



If you spot graffiti on a building, wall, fence, etc., call

**RenoDIRECT (775) 334-INFO** and tell them the location of graffiti. You may also report graffiti on line at [www.reno.gov](http://www.reno.gov).

You can also remain anonymous and



call **Secret Witness** at **(775) 322-4900**

to report graffiti vandals. You may be eligible for a cash reward, if the information leads to the arrest and conviction of those involved in the crime of graffiti vandalism.



# GRAFFITI

vandalism



## What To Do If It Comes To Your Neighborhood





# GRAFFITI HURTS!

## What is Graffiti?

Graffiti Vandals have no respect for private or public property. A Graffiti Vandal sprayed toxic paint on this dog wandering the street.



**According to Reno Municipal code, graffiti is an unauthorized marking, such as initials, slogans, inscriptions, figures, marks or drawings commonly known and referred to as graffiti; written, sprayed painted, etched or sketched on a sidewalk, wall, building, fence, sign, or any other public or private surface.**

Materials used to facilitate the placement of graffiti, as defined above, include but are not limited to, aerosol paint containers, aerosol paint container tips, broad-tipped markers with a width greater than 1/4 inch, paint sticks, graffiti sticks, engraving devices, and etching tools, or any other implement capable of marking on and/or scarring glass, metal, concrete or wood.

## Why is it Harmful?

Graffiti reduces property value, lowers community pride, and diminishes quality of life. Graffiti is costly to both personal and city funds through removal expenses. Graffiti also paves the way for more severe crime and scars the neighborhood. Graffiti hurts everyone in the community. It is vital and necessary for citizens to take a position against graffiti and report it.

## Graffiti Abatement and Cost

The immediate removal of graffiti is a strategic element of the City's anti-graffiti vandalism efforts. Graffiti that remains in place for any length of time can result in criminal activity that is directly related to graffiti itself, especially when it is used as a threat or challenge to another gang or graffiti tagging crew. It is imperative that graffiti is removed as soon as possible.

**In the City of Reno, Nevada it cost approximately \$330,886.00 a year to clean up graffiti.**

## Keeping Property-owner Waivers On File

Private property owners are required to sign a waiver before the City of Reno can remove graffiti on private property. Keeping this waiver on file at the Reno Police Department facilitates a quicker response to reported graffiti on private property. **The waiver is kept on file for 2 years.**

Unfortunately, we do not remove graffiti that is higher than 15' off the ground.

**The waiver does not waive a property owner's responsibility of maintaining their property clear of graffiti.** We do not remove graffiti that can not be seen from the street.



**You can find this waiver online at [www.reno.gov](http://www.reno.gov)**